

EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT

1. An extension of time under 37 CFR 1.136(a) is required in order to make an examiner's amendment which places this application in condition for allowance. During a telephone conversation conducted on August 26, 2010, Kevin Bastuba requested an extension of time for ONE (1) MONTH(S) and authorized the Director to charge Deposit Account No. 07-2069 the required fee of \$130.00 for this extension and authorized the following examiner's amendment. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it MUST be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

The application has been amended as follows:

In the specification

paragraph 0027 third to last line (p. 14 line 1), to clarify that each belt layer is completely formed by the recited process forming the equal spaces between adjacent strip pieces (and therefore distinguishes over the Suda et al. (6,613,177 B1) alternative in col. 7 lines 38-41 which adds the subsequent step of joining the strip pieces together with a joint roller or the like to completely form the belt layer), "formed" has been changed to -- completely formed -- ;

paragraph 0029 third to last line (p. 15 line 1), to clarify that the outer belt layer is completely formed by the recited process forming the equal spaces between adjacent strip pieces (and therefore distinguishes over the Suda et al. (6,613,177 B1) alternative in col. 7 lines 38-41 which adds the subsequent step of joining the strip pieces together with a joint roller or the like to completely form the belt layer), "formed" has been changed to -- completely formed -- ;

In the claims

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claim 1 line 7, to clarify that the belt layer is completely formed by the recited process forming the equal spaces between adjacent strip pieces (and therefore distinguishes over the Suda et al. (6,613,177 B1) alternative in col. 7 lines 38-41 which adds the subsequent step of joining the strip pieces together with a joint roller or the like to completely form the belt layer), “formed” has been changed to -- completely formed -- ;

claim 1 as amended above is allowable and therefore is hereby REJOINED;

claim 2 line 12, to clarify that the outer belt layer is completely formed by the recited process forming the equal spaces between adjacent strip pieces (and therefore distinguishes over the Suda et al. (6,613,177 B1) alternative in col. 7 lines 38-41 which adds the subsequent step of joining the strip pieces together with a joint roller or the like to completely form the belt layer), “formed” has been changed to -- completely formed -- ;

claim 3 line 10, to clarify that the belt layer is completely formed by the recited process forming the equal spaces between adjacent strip pieces (and therefore distinguishes over the Suda et al. (6,613,177 B1) alternative in col. 7 lines 38-41 which adds the subsequent step of joining the strip pieces together with a joint roller or the like to completely form the belt layer), “forming” has been changed to -- completely forming -- ;

claim 3 as amended is allowable and therefore is hereby REJOINED;

claim 4 line 13, to clarify that the outer belt layer is completely formed by the recited process forming the equal spaces between adjacent strip pieces (and therefore distinguishes over the Suda et al. (6,613,177 B1) alternative in col. 7 lines 38-41 which adds the subsequent step of joining the strip pieces together with a joint roller or the like to completely form the belt layer), “forming” has been changed to -- completely forming -- ;

non-elected invention claims 5-8 have been cancelled;

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claims 9 and 10 have been cancelled to avoid any possible new matter issue.

2. The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance: As noted above, the claims now clearly distinguish over the Suda et al. (6,613,177 B1) alternative in col. 7 lines 38-41 which adds the subsequent step of joining the strip pieces together with a joint roller or the like to completely form the belt layer. The prior art of record fails to disclose or suggest applicants' tire and method of making the tire, including the completely formed belt layer having the equal spaces between adjacent strip pieces, in the claimed environment.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

3. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Adrienne C. Johnstone whose telephone number is (571) 272-1218. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Friday, 1:00PM-5:00PM.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Richard Crispino can be reached on (571) 272-1226. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

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Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

Adrienne C. Johnstone
Primary Examiner
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Adrienne Johnstone

/Adrienne C. Johnstone/

August 30, 2010